

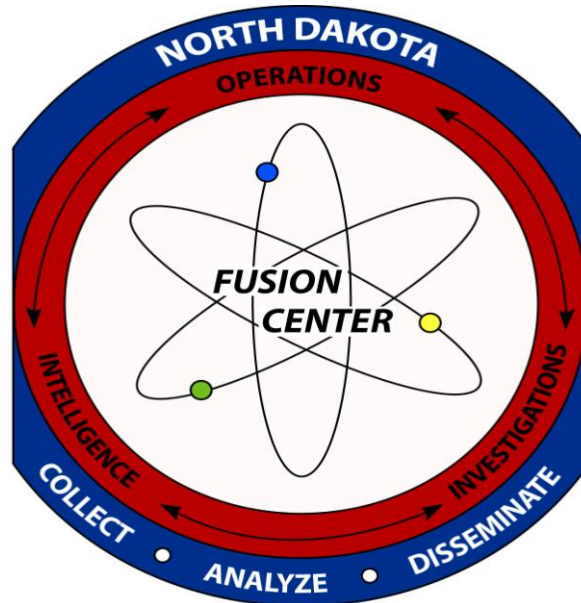


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# North Dakota Homeland Security "Open Source" Anti-Terrorism Summary

January 26, 2010



The North Dakota All Source Anti-Terrorism Summary is a product of the North Dakota Fusion Center. It provides open source news articles and information on terrorism, crime, and potential destructive or damaging acts of nature or unintentional acts. Articles are placed in the Anti-Terrorism Summary to provide situational awareness for local law enforcement, first responders, government officials, and private/public infrastructure owners.

If you have any comments to improve this summary or local information you would like to see in the summary please send the information to [ndfusion@nd.gov](mailto:ndfusion@nd.gov)

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## **NORTH DAKOTA**

**No one injured in Friday propane explosion.** Officials confirmed a fire caused a blast that rocked Dickinson, South Dakota residents early Friday morning and say it was a miracle no one was injured. A fire in the West Industrial Park building for B & B Hot Oil Services Inc, of which the ignition source is unknown, is partly to blame for a propane explosion, said the Dickinson Rural Fire Department chief. Nearby homes shuddered and debris littered fields more than a mile away, with residents across town reportedly jolted out of bed by the 4:37 a.m. blast. Nearby subdivisions experienced such powerful shockwaves that windows broke, walls cracked and objects blew off shelves. Surrounding businesses felt the blast's wrath, too, and while many are cosmetically damaged, some are structurally damaged as well. Two large hot oil trucks, each carrying two tanks of propane gas, were housed in the business. Propane is believed to have been leaking from the trucks, and once a fire ignited in the building, the combination caused the massive blow. Source:

<http://www.thedickinsonpress.com/event/article/id/31433/>

## **REGIONAL**

Nothing Significant to Report

## **NATIONAL**

## **22 Indicted in FBI Sting on Paying Foreign Bribes**

Twenty-two executives and employees of suppliers to military and law enforcement agencies were arrested on the eve of the 2010 Shooting, Hunting, & Outdoor Trade Show in Las Vegas. The arrests come after a 2 1/2-year undercover sting operation aimed at uncovering bribes made to foreign officials. According to the Justice Department, this is "the largest single investigation and prosecution of individuals in the history of the 1977 Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA)" It is also the first time large-scale undercover tactics have been used to enforce the FCPA. Those being charged represent eight states and companies in the United Kingdom, Israel, and Peru. None of the 21 people arrested in Las Vegas entered pleas, and U.S. Magistrate Judge Peggy Leen ordered most of them to surrender their passports and appear in federal court in Washington on Feb. 3. It is alleged that the defendants, who were trying to win a multimillion dollar deal to outfit a presidential guard, agreed to pay a 20 percent commission to a sales agent they believed to be representing the defense minister of an African country. The sales agent was an undercover FBI agent, and at least one other FBI agent was acting undercover as a procurement officer for the African nation. The 22 individuals face allegations of conspiracy and violations of the FCPA, which carry a maximum five-year prison sentence; as well as conspiracy to engage in money laundering, which carries a maximum sentence of 20 years.

<http://abcnews.go.com/Business/wireStory?id=9604567>

## **American Ex-Convicts Suspected of Link to Yemen Militants**

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee has released a report that found that as many as 36 Americans who became Muslims while in U.S. prisons traveled to Yemen over the past year, possibly to be trained by al-Qaida. According to the report, which was released ahead of a Wednesday hearing on the growing threat from al-Qaida in Yemen, the former convicts traveled to the impoverished Arabian Peninsula nation under the pretense of studying Arabic. After they arrived, the ex-convicts disappeared and are believed to have traveled to al-Qaida training camps in ungoverned sections of Yemen, the report said. The report also noted that the trips by the ex-convicts to Yemen are just one piece of evidence that al-Qaida is increasingly trying to recruit American residents and citizens in Yemen, Somalia, and the U.S. In addition, the report said that al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula--the group that is believed to be responsible for the failed attempt to bomb Northwest Airlines Flight 253 late last month--has become a dangerous new threat to the U.S. after being on the verge of collapse a couple of years ago. U.S. counterterrorism officials say that they are concerned about the report's findings, since they seem to show that al-Qaida has broadened its recruitment efforts in Yemen to attract "nontraditional followers" who can carry out more ambitious terrorist plots. Some are also concerned that those who traveled to Yemen to receive terrorist training may more easily enter the U.S. than foreigners. <http://www.latimes.com/news/nation-and-world/la-fg-prisoners-terror20-2010jan20,0,2603215.story>

## **INTERNATIONAL**

**India issues plane hijack alert.** On Friday India issued a security alert to all airports and airlines following an intelligence notification that some terror groups were plotting to hijack a plane. "We have reliable information of a planned plane hijack by terrorists. We have advised the civil aviation ministry to take necessary steps," said a spokesman at the federal home ministry. Indian airports were put on high alert and security tightened following the federal home ministry warning. Sky marshals were deployed on certain flights and passengers were being subject to intense security screening, the spokesman said. Indian news agency Press Trust of India said according to intelligence

inputs terror groups linked to al-Qaeda and Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba were planning to hijack an Air India or Indian Airlines plane flying in or from SAARC countries - Nepal, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Maldives, Afghanistan, Pakistan and India. The alert comes two days after the U.S. Defense Secretary, traveling in the region, warned of possible strike by al Qaeda and its affiliates to destabilize South Asia and trigger war between India and Pakistan. Source:

[http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748703699204575018261016131460.html?mod=WSJ\\_latestheadlines](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748703699204575018261016131460.html?mod=WSJ_latestheadlines)

**Saudi Kingdom Tower evacuated after bomb hoax.** Saudi authorities ordered the evacuation of Kingdom Tower, a landmark in the capital Riyadh, as a precaution on January 20 after a bomb threat which turned out to be a hoax, an Interior Ministry spokesman said. "We confirm that this was a hoax ... The building and sites immediately close to it are being evacuated as a precautionary measure," the Interior Ministry spokesman for security affairs told Reuters. "An unknown person called an employee at Samba (Financial Group) bank's offices in the tower to say a bomb was placed in his car" he added. Bomb threats are rare in Saudi Arabia. The spokesman said earlier the anonymous caller told a Samba employee that the bomb was placed in a car in the parking lot of the bank's main headquarters in Riyadh. Source: <http://in.reuters.com/article/worldNews/idINIndia-45552720100120>

**Part of Munich airport closed after security alert.** Part of Munich airport was closed Wednesday as officials searched in vain for a man who left a security checkpoint with a bag containing a laptop after it had triggered an alert for possible explosives. The incident appeared to have been a false alarm triggered by a passenger in a hurry to catch his plane, and who was unaware of what had happened. Part of the airport's Terminal 2 was closed following the incident at 3:30 p.m. local time and hundreds of people were evacuated. The area reopened three hours later. Police had not been able to find or identify the man by mid-evening, but said they were still working on it. An airport security instrument alerted officials to possible explosives as the bag with the man's laptop was being scanned, police said. The man quickly left the scene, carrying the computer into the terminal, they said. Officials had wanted to check the bag again. The impression of officials was that "the passenger likely was in a bit of a hurry, grabbed his luggage and headed off," a federal police spokesman said. Although the security instrument flagged the bag, that "doesn't mean that there are explosives inside," and the alert could have been triggered by something else, the spokesman said. He said the machines are set to be very sensitive. While the man did not necessarily commit any offense, police still want to question him about why he left the security check. Source: [http://www.lcsun-news.com/las\\_cruces-business/ci\\_14229813](http://www.lcsun-news.com/las_cruces-business/ci_14229813)

### **Soldiers Patrol Nigerian City Shaken by Violence**

Nigerian authorities say that the religious violence that took place between Christians and Muslims in the central city of Jos this week has been brought under control. However, the situation in Jos--which is located in a region that separates Nigeria's predominantly Muslim north from the Christian south--remains tense. Soldiers with machine guns could be seen patrolling the streets of Jos in the back of pickup trucks on Wednesday, and a 24-hour curfew remains in place in the city. But despite the curfew, people could be seen walking around downtown Jos. It remains unclear what sparked the violence, which has killed more than 200 people. Many residents of Jos say the violence started after a Muslim man that was rebuilding his home, which was destroyed in similar violence in November 2008, was taunted and attacked on Sunday. Others say that the violence began Sunday when Muslim

youths set a Catholic church on fire.

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704320104575014540140271872.html>

**Putin says chlorine in chickens is unsafe.** Getting another American chicken into Russia just got harder, as the Russian Prime Minister weighed into the Russian ban on U.S. chicken imports. "We haven't seen any readiness to meet Russian standards on the part of some of our partners, mainly the companies from the United States," the Prime Minister said. "If our foreign suppliers are unable or reluctant to meet our security requirements, we will use other sources." The Russians banned chickens from countries using chlorine in poultry processing beginning January 1, 2010. The Russian Prime Minister said that Russia was merely joining the European Union in banning, for food safety reasons, chickens from chlorine-using countries. Since Russia raised the possibility of banning U.S. chickens for chlorine use in mid 2008, the USA Poultry & Egg Export Council has tried to persuade officials in Moscow by sharing scientific studies. The poultry export market to Russia was valued at \$825 million in 2008. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) recommends the "use of hypochlorus (i.e. active chlorine) solutions as an effective antimicrobial. Source: <http://www.foodpoisonjournal.com/fsncache/>

**Rival Somali pirates exchange gunfire before oil tanker is released.** Two rival groups of Somali pirates had a shootout just before a \$5.5 million ransom was delivered to free a supertanker loaded with combustible crude oil, prompting the pirates onboard to call the anti-piracy force for help, a European Union naval spokesman said Monday. Helicopters dispatched from a warship ended the standoff that could have caused a catastrophic explosion aboard the Maran Centaurus, which is carrying about 2 million barrels of crude oil destined for the United States. The ship's cargo is so flammable that smoking is forbidden on deck. The supertanker was seized about 800 miles off the Somali coast with a crew of 28. The crude oil onboard was estimated to be worth roughly \$150 million at the time of the November 29 attack. The spokesman for the European Union Naval Force said a rival group of pirates had attacked the gunmen holding the Greek-flagged ship Sunday just before the ransom was to be delivered, prompting the pirates onboard the tanker to call for assistance from the anti-piracy force. A Somali middleman, who helped negotiate the ship's release, said a nearby warship had dispatched two helicopters to hover over the attackers' two skiffs, frightening them off. The pirates onboard the ship then collected \$5.5 million, which was parachuted out the back of two planes, he said. The pirates left the ship Monday morning and the helicopter did not fire any shots, he said. In a prepared statement, the ship's owner declined to give any details about how it negotiated the release of the Maran Centaurus. The Maran Tankers Management Inc. said the crew members are safe and well. Source: [http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/dws/news/world/stories/DN-piracy\\_19int.ART.State.Edition1.d936ef.html](http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/dws/news/world/stories/DN-piracy_19int.ART.State.Edition1.d936ef.html)

**Bomb outside Indian Oil plant defused, disaster averted in Punjab.** A major accident was averted in the Patiala district of Punjab, India with the timely detection and inactivation of a bomb placed outside an Indian Oil liquefied petroleum gas bottling plant near there, police said on Tuesday. The bomb, suspected to be an improvised explosive device, was discovered late Monday evening. Punjab Armed Police (PAP) defused the bomb, which was placed in a canister and wrapped in a man's shawl inside a plastic bag. The device was kept along the Bhiwanigarh-Nabha highway, very close to the LPG bottling plant. The IED was placed at a gas pipeline of Indian Oil coming from Panipat to the bottling plant. The bomb was defused after an operation that went on for over two hours Tuesday morning.

“Experts of PAP have successfully defused the bomb and disintegrated it to ascertain its ingredients. Its contents included different chemical substances like potassium nitrate, petrol bottles and nails,” the district police chief told reporters. He added: “After scrutinizing the contents, we will try to find out the places where they were manufactured. So far we have not arrested anybody in this connection but our investigation is on and very soon we will nab the accused.” The bomb contained up to 10 kg of explosives. Source: <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/Bomb-outside-Indian-Oil-plant-defused-disaster-averted-in-Punjab/articleshow/5476593.cms>

## **BANKING AND FINANCE INDUSTRY**

**Suspicious package prompts bank evacuation.** A bank in Altamonte Springs is surrounded on January 20 after a suspicious package was reported. Altamonte police said someone left a suspicious-looking object on the sidewalk near the front door of the Wachovia bank located at 351 North State Road 434. Customers and employees in the bank have been evacuated. Hazmat and bomb squad crews are examining the object. Source: <http://www.wesh.com/news/22283750/detail.html>

**HPD: Tech-savvy thieves target ATMs with skimming devices.** Tech-savvy crooks are putting skimming devices and cameras on ATM machines so they can steal money, said a Houston police lieutenant. Police recently arrested a 31 year old suspect and an accomplice who are accused of placing a skimming device on an ATM machine in the 4300 Block of Montrose, the lieutenant said. The police lieutenant works with the department’s financial crimes division. Police said the two suspects sat across the street from the ATM machine in a black Cadillac Escalade watching with binoculars. Once they saw the customers pull up, they moved in a little bit closer and would turn on their wireless camera, police said. The camera allowed them to watch the customer enter the banking pin into the keypad. One Houston area bank lost more than \$200,000 because of the skimming device. Source: <http://www.khou.com/home/Beware-of-Skimming-Devices-attached-to-ATM-Machines-82126067.html>

**Holiday City bank evacuated after bomb threat.** Police are evacuating a Holiday City bank as they investigate a bomb threat on January 20. Patrons and employees of the Provident Bank on Plaza Drive were evacuated at about 10:30 a.m., a detective sergeant said. Police then began evacuating surrounding buildings as they began to investigate the threat, he said. Further information was not immediately available. Drivers are advised to avoid the roads surrounding the bank, including the intersection of Mule Road and Route 37, if possible. Source: <http://www.app.com/article/20100120/NEWS/100120048/Holiday-City-bank-evacuated-after-bomb-threat>

**Regulators close 3 banks in Minnesota, Illinois, Utah.** Three U.S. banks were shuttered on January 15 by state regulators, bringing the total number of bank failures this year to four, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation said. In Illinois, state regulators shut down Town Community Bank and Trust in Antioch. Town Community Bank and Trust, which only had one branch, had approximately \$69.6 million in assets and \$67.4 million in total deposits as of September 30, 2009, according to the FDIC. Under the deal, the FDIC and First American Bank will share in losses on about \$56.2 million of Town Community Bank and Trust’s assets. The FDIC estimated the failure will cost its deposit-insurance fund \$17.8 million. State regulators in Minnesota, meanwhile, closed St. Stephen State Bank, which is based in St. Stephens. The First State Bank of St. Joseph agreed to assume the deposits of St. Stephen



State Bank through a deal with the FDIC. St. Stephen State Bank had approximately \$24.7 million in total assets and \$23.4 million in total deposits as of Sept. 30, 2009. The FDIC and First State Bank of St. Joseph will share in losses on about \$20.4 million of St. Stephen State Bank's assets. Then in Utah, state regulators also closed down the Kaysville-based Barnes Banking Company. Unable to secure a buyer, the FDIC said it has created a bridge bank called the Deposit Insurance National Bank of Kaysville which will remain open until February 12, 2010 so customers can transfer their accounts to other banks. As of September 30, 2009, Barnes Banking Company had \$827.8 million in total assets and \$786.5 million in total deposits. The FDIC estimated the failure of Barnes Banking Company will cost its deposit-insurance fund \$271.3 million. Source: [http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20100115-713771.html?mod=WSJ\\_latestheadlines](http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20100115-713771.html?mod=WSJ_latestheadlines)

**Smaller merchants may offer less credit card security.** According to a recent survey, credit card security may not be as alive and well as most consumers assume. The study surveyed 560 U.S. and multinational organizations for the degree to which they complied with the Payment Card Industry's Data Security Standard (PCI DSS). The survey was conducted by the Ponemon Institute, a company specializing in research into privacy and information security policy. The PCI DSS is an industry standard introduced in June 2005 by major credit card companies. It outlines the essential security measures companies must take to guard the credit card information and other customer payment data companies collected during credit card transactions. The survey found that many smaller merchants do not make the investment necessary to comply with PCI DSS. While almost three out of four large merchants with 75,000 or more employees complied with the standards (70 percent), only about one in four (28 percent) of smaller companies with 501 to 1,000 employees said they were compliant. Indeed, of the companies surveyed, 55 percent only secured credit card information, but not other vital personal data involved in identity theft, such as Social Security number, driver's license numbers, or bank account details. At the same time, the need for greater protection of credit card information was underscored by one sobering fact: 79 percent of respondents said they had had at least one data breach involving loss or theft of credit card information. Source: <http://www.creditcardguide.com/creditcards/credit-cards-general/smaller-merchants-offer-credit-card-security-188/>

**Mobile phishing highlights need for greater security.** At least nine credit unions were subject to a mobile phone phishing attack that sought to lure credit union members into giving up their financial information to fraudsters. The attack both speaks to the appeal of mobile banking as well as the pressing need to continue to develop its security. The thieves launched the attack using downloadable applications that they wrote and branded with logos from the financial institutions, which included a number of banks as well as credit unions. They launched the applications on Google's Android mobile phone platform that Google is using as the operating system for its own phone and that a number of different cellular phone networks have offered on their own phones as well. The applications were all developed by a person or group calling itself "09Droid" and contained the phrase "happy banking" on the summary statement that each application uses to advertise itself to potential users. In the attack, a mobile phone user would have seen that the application was available on the Android Marketplace and purchased it for about \$1.50. The user then would have likely logged on to his or her account with the application, which would then capture their password and other information to add to the credit or debit card information that the user had already provided when purchasing the application. Source: <http://www.cutimes.com/Issues/2010/January-20-2010/Pages/Mobile.aspx>

## **CHEMICAL AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SECTOR**

**Exxon reports Baton Rouge incident.** Exxon Mobil Corp on January 20 reported an unspecified “incident” that occurred Tuesday afternoon at its 503,000 barrels-per-day Baton Rouge, Louisiana, oil refinery’s sulfur plant. “At about 1 p.m. Tuesday, the ExxonMobil Baton Rouge Refinery responded to an incident at our sulfur plant located south of Gulf States Road,” an Exxon spokesman added in an email. Some on-site personnel were asked to shelter-in-place as a precaution, he said, adding there were no reported injuries nor off site impacts. “Per normal procedure, ExxonMobil notified all appropriate agencies,” he said. He said he had no information about the refinery status, citing company policy of not commenting on day-to-day operations. Source:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSN2015457920100120?type=marketsNews>

## **COMMERCIAL FACILITIES**

**Meth lab explosion rocks Kissimmee hotel.** Osceola County, Florida, deputies spent hours late Thursday night and early Friday morning dismantling a meth lab that exploded inside a Kissimmee, Florida, hotel. Everyone staying at the Carefree Inn and Suites on Highway 192 had to be evacuated for hours Thursday night after the explosion caused a fire in the room on the third floor. Osceola County Sheriff’s deputies said two guests at the Carefree Inn and Suites were cooking methamphetamine in a third-floor room when the chemicals exploded. “The ground shook and then everybody said there was a bomb and that we need to evacuate,” said a hotel guest. The blast happened just before 7:00pm Thursday night and more than one hundred hotel guests were evacuated. Deputies say the two people staying in the room were cooking meth when the chemicals exploded, blowing the door off its hinges and shattering windows. Eyewitnesses said they saw two people running from the hotel after the explosion, but the two people, who were injured, were soon caught by law enforcement officials. “One has minor injuries to his legs and one was taken to Osceola Regional Medical Center,” said a spokesperson with the Osceola County Sheriff’s Office. The sheriff’s office says it is not uncommon to find meth labs inside hotel rooms, and it is a worst case scenario when an explosion happens because of the proximity of other residents. Both people will face felony charges, deputies said. Source: <http://www.wftv.com/countybycounty/22309426/detail.html>

**Feds probing rash of church fires in East Texas.** Federal authorities are investigating a rash of church fires in East Texas, where seven such blazes have been reported since January 1. Police said the latest Tyler-area fire at Bethesda House of Prayer in Lindale was quickly contained Wednesday morning. No injuries or deaths have been reported. The Lindale fire came after two weekend church fires in Tyler, about 100 miles east of Dallas. Authorities have not said the fires are linked, or whether arson was the cause. Agents with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives moved in last week after three church fires were reported over 12 days in nearby Athens. The Athens blazes caused officials to re-examine a church fire in Canton, 40 miles west of Tyler. Source:

<http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/APStories/stories/D9DBJ2PO0.html>

**Choice Hotels receives bomb threat.** In the wake of a long string of office violence — Grand Junction, Colorado, police say they responded to a bomb threat at Choice Hotels call center. Early this afternoon the center received an anonymous bomb threat. Police arrived on scene and spoke with management. Police say the Choice Hotels manager wasn’t concerned the threat was for real. After a



search — police found no traces of a bomb and were unable to trace the call. They have no suspects at this time and are not opening an investigation. Source:

<http://www.kjct8.com/Global/story.asp?S=11846798>

**Bomb scare: Portions of Arcata's North Town evacuated.** A suspicious package — just a little bigger than a shoebox — that was dropped off at Kinko's this afternoon and led to evacuations throughout North Town is now in the hands of the Humboldt County, California, bomb squad, which will take the package to a disposal site to determine if it is an explosive device. The one-square-block portion of downtown Arcata has been reopened so that residents and business owners and employees can return to their properties. Authorities have X-rayed the parcel, and still believe it to be suspicious, according to officials on scene at about 4:30 p.m. The bomb squad was deployed there late this afternoon. After examining the package, they too determined it suspicious and widened the safety perimeter, officials with the Arcata Fire Protection District (AFPD) said. Impacted businesses included Hey Juan Burritos, Hutchins Grocery, and Wildflower Caf  , among others. The first call came in to the AFPD at around 1:17 p.m. The package is marked with a fictitious return address and was apparently destined for the Berkeley area. Officials say they have surveillance footage of the person who dropped the package off. Source: [http://www.times-standard.com/ci\\_14232964?source=most\\_viewed](http://www.times-standard.com/ci_14232964?source=most_viewed)

**Teen arrested in MLK Day shooting.** San Antonio police arrested a 14-year-old boy suspected of shooting three people after the MLK March and Commemorative Program Monday afternoon. The boy faces three counts of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon. San Antonio police said the teen opened fire on a crowd of people outside a Church's Chicken at Nevada and South New Braunfels Avenue around 3:30 p.m. Monday. Three people, ages 13, 18, and 21, each sustained a gunshot wound to the leg. One was taken to University Hospital, while the other two were taken to Brooke Army Medical Center. All three victims sustained wounds not thought to be life-threatening, officials said. Just before the shooting, two groups in the parking lot threw gang signs, said the police chief. The teenage shooter fired twice, police said, but struck the three victims, who were not his intended targets. Source: <http://www.mysanantonio.com/news/82079647.html>

**Carlstadt Coca-Cola plant evacuated after unclaimed bag sighted.** The Coca-Cola bottling plant in Carlstadt, New Jersey was evacuated by police and the county bomb squad early Friday after an unclaimed tote bag was spotted by an employee in the parking lot, authorities said. After sifting through the contents, the black nylon bag turned out to contain someone's lunch, a detective said. Source: [http://www.northjersey.com/news/011510\\_Carlstadt\\_Coca-Cola\\_plant\\_evacuated\\_after\\_unclaimed\\_bag\\_sighted.html](http://www.northjersey.com/news/011510_Carlstadt_Coca-Cola_plant_evacuated_after_unclaimed_bag_sighted.html)

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

**Cable damage knocks out Verizon service in Rolling Hills.** Dozens of Verizon customers in Rolling Hills are without phone service on January 20 after an underground cable line was damaged, possibly due to a storm-related power outage on January 19. The company has so far had 57 reports of trouble, but many more are likely affected. The outage is in the Amaga Springs Road and High Ridge Road areas. Crews are working to excavate the cable, but rainy weather is making repair efforts difficult, said a spokesman with the phone company. "We will be working around the clock until service is restored," he said. Source: [http://www.dailybreeze.com/news/ci\\_14230112](http://www.dailybreeze.com/news/ci_14230112)

**Ex-employee charged in bomb threat at St. Pete TV studio.** Employees at a television studio were evacuated early the morning of January 20 after someone called in a bomb threat, and investigators quickly figured out it was a former employee who made the threat, St. Petersburg police say. The former employee, of St. Petersburg, was arrested and charged with threatening to discharge a destructive device. He is being held at the Pinellas County Jail with bail set at \$10,000. At about 3:15 a.m., the suspect made an anonymous call to say there was a bomb inside the American Option Network studio, said a St. Petersburg police spokesman. All employees were evacuated, and police traced the call to its origin, the spokesman said. It turned out to be the phone number belonging to the suspect, the spokesman said. Source: <http://suncoastpinellas.tbo.com/content/2010/jan/20/ex-employee-charged-bomb-threat-st-pete-tv-studio/>

**Two more arrested for theft of MTA copper wire.** Palmer, Alaska, police say two more men have been arrested in the theft of copper wire from Matanuska Telephone Association. A detective sergeant said a 40-year-old and 48-year-old were taken into custody when they arrived by ferry in Juneau. Source: <http://www.ktuu.com/Global/story.asp?S=11842626>

## **CRITICAL MANUFACTURING**

**J&J recalls more products after unusual odor.** Johnson & Johnson's consumer division is recalling more than 53 million bottles of over-the-counter products including Tylenol, Motrin, and Roloids after reports of an unusual odor, expanding on an issue that led to a Tylenol recall last year. The latest voluntary recall followed consumer reports of "an unusual moldy, musty, or mildew-like" odor that, in a small number of cases, was associated with temporary and non-serious gastrointestinal events," the company said. Such events included nausea, stomach pain, vomiting, and diarrhea. The Food and Drug Administration said the company had received about 70 complaints in 2008 of an intestinal problem or an unusual smell with Tylenol caplets but failed to report the problem to regulators until a year later. The recall involves lots in the Americas, the United Arab Emirates, and Fiji. The recall also involved the Benadryl allergy drug and St. Joseph's Aspirin. On Friday, FDA officials criticized the company's actions as slow and sent a warning to J&J's McNeil Consumer Healthcare unit. According to McNeil, the unusual smell is caused by the presence of trace amounts of a chemical called 2,4,6-tribromoanisole, which can result from the breakdown of a chemical that is sometimes applied to wood for pallets that transport and store product packaging materials. It was unclear how the chemical could have penetrated the bottles, a McNeil spokeswoman said. McNeil Consumer Healthcare in December recalled about 5.2 million bottles of a form of Tylenol related to the chemical issue. The company said it has now applied broader criteria to identify and remove all product lots that may be affected, even if they have not been the subject of consumer complaints. It said it was continuing its investigation of the issue. Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE60E2L420100115>

**Toyota recalls 2.3 million more vehicles to fix runaway acceleration.** Toyota is adding 2.3 million vehicles to the 4.2 million Toyota and Lexus models already recalled to fix a problem that can cause the accelerator pedal to stick. The latest recall involves 2007-10 Camrys, 2009-10 Corollas, 2009-10 RAV4s, 2009-10 Matrixes, 2005-10 Avalons, 2010 Highlanders, 2007-10 Tundras and 2008-10 Sequoias. Toyota Motor Sales U.S.A. said in a statement that accelerator pedals could stick "in a partially depressed position or return slowly to the idle position" in the affected models. A

spokesman said the problem was most likely to occur when the pedal mechanism becomes worn. Today's action is separate from the ongoing recall of 4.2 million Toyota and Lexus models. The company said about 1.7 million vehicles are included in both recall actions. Source: [http://www.consumeraffairs.com/news04/2010/01/toyota\\_pedals3.html](http://www.consumeraffairs.com/news04/2010/01/toyota_pedals3.html)

**2010 Acura MDX recalled to fix A-pillar problem.** American Honda is recalling about 640 Acura MDX models. A bolt used to attach an interior trim piece to the A-pillar may not have been installed properly. In the event of a crash resulting in side curtain air bag deployment, the trim piece might not remain properly secured to the A-pillar, increasing the risk of injury to the driver or passenger. Dealers will inspect the interior trim piece and, if the bolt is missing, will install it free of charge. Source: [http://www.consumeraffairs.com/recalls04/2010/acura\\_mdx.html](http://www.consumeraffairs.com/recalls04/2010/acura_mdx.html)

**Chrysler to recall 24,177 vehicles on brake issue.** Chrysler Group LLC will recall 24,177 vehicles due to a potential defect in a brake system that could result in sudden brake failure, the automaker said in a filing with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. The recall applies to 2010 model-year Chrysler Sebring, Dodge Avenger and Nitro, and Jeep Liberty, Commander and Grand Cherokee SUVs, as well as 2009-2010 model year Dodge Ram trucks. In some of the vehicles, the clip retention tab on the brake pedal pin was not properly formed, or not installed, during the manufacturing process, Chrysler said. That could result in brake failure without warning and could cause a crash, the company said. Chrysler said it was unaware of any accidents or injuries related to the issue. Chrysler said the safety recall is expected to begin during the month of January. Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE60I35E20100119>

## **DEFENSE INDUSTRIAL BASE SECTOR**

**Poisoned PDF pill used to attack U.S. military contractors.** Unidentified hackers are running an ongoing cyber-espionage attack targeting U.S. military contractors. Booby-trapped PDF files, posing as messages from the U.S. Department of Defense, were emailed to U.S. defense contractors recently. The document refers to a real conference due to be held in Las Vegas in March. Opening the malicious PDF file attached to the spoofed emails triggers an attempt to exploit an Adobe Reader vulnerability only patched by the software firm on 12 January. The infection of vulnerable systems opens up a backdoor that connects to a server hosted in Taiwan, though the hackers who set up the attack may potentially be located anywhere. The assault illustrates that cyber-espionage attacks are an ongoing problem, far from restricted to the IE-based attacks on Google and others in December. Source: [http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/01/18/booby\\_trapped\\_pdf\\_cyber\\_espionage/](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/01/18/booby_trapped_pdf_cyber_espionage/)

## **EMERGENCY SERVICES**

**Man accused of killing 8 people, forcing down Va. police helicopter with gunfire surrenders to police.** Virginia State Police say a suspect in the shooting deaths of eight people at a rural home in Appomattox has surrendered without incident. The 39-year-old approached officers at the crime scene at about 7:10 a.m. Wednesday and turned himself in. The gunman forced down a police helicopter by shooting its fuel tank. The area just about 3 miles from the state police district headquarters was filled with law enforcement from all over, with more than 100 responding. Earlier, as teams tried to catch the gunman, he fired at the helicopter trying to flush him out, police said. One

or more rounds struck the helicopter, forcing it down, but no police were injured. Source:  
<http://www.timesnews.net/article.php?id=9019945>

## **ENERGY**

**Missing nuclear gauge found alongside road.** An Economy, Pennsylvania, road worker Wednesday afternoon found a nuclear density gauge that disappeared from a Coraopolis business, according to police and the state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). Economy police said they do not know how the device ended up alongside Cooney Hollow Road where it was spotted around 2:30 p.m. by the road crew worker. The road worker immediately called police, and the device was taken to the borough police station so that it could be given to the DEP. It was not known how long the device was lying alongside the road. According to a DEP press release, the device belonged to Jeff Zell Consultants. The company discovered the device was missing during a January 4 inventory but waited 10 days before reporting it to the DEP, according to the state agency. Source:  
[http://www.timesonline.com/bct\\_news/news\\_details/article/1373/2010/january/21/missing-nuclear-gauge-found-alongside-road.html](http://www.timesonline.com/bct_news/news_details/article/1373/2010/january/21/missing-nuclear-gauge-found-alongside-road.html)

**3 arrested for trespassing at TVA Kingston Fossil Plant.** Three environmental activists have been arrested for trespassing on the site of the massive fly ash spill in Roane County. TVA Police indicate they have warned one man, 30 and of Knoxville, multiple times about trespassing on the TVA Kingston Fossil Plant. But he was arrested the afternoon of January 20 around 3 p.m. as a passenger in a car that had driven past a TVA sign reading "Notice: Authorized personnel only." The Roane County chief deputy said the man has ties to United Mountain Defense, an environmental advocacy group. TVA Police arrested a 24 year-old female from Boone, North Carolina. An officer wrote that she had gotten out the car in which the male was a passenger, climbed up onto some stationary railroad cars, and was taking pictures of the interior of the cars. The officer wrote that climbing up on the cars was very dangerous, "as the rail cars can move without notice." The Chief Deputy said the female had news credentials from an environmental publication. The officer also arrested another female, a 22 year-old from Burke, Virginia, who was driving the car. The three were booked into the Roane County Jail. They have since been released. Source:  
<http://www.wbir.com/news/local/story.aspx?storyid=111391&provider=gnews>

**Venezuela power shortage may push oil above \$100.** Venezuela's power shortage may push oil above \$100 a barrel if the president diverts electricity from the biggest refining complex in the Americas, Curium Capital Advisors LLC said. The president may tap a power plant at the 940,000 barrel-a-day Paraguana complex to supply electricity for public use, said a chief executive officer of the Boston-based oil research firm. "He has to decide every single day what to do with Paraguana," he said in an interview with Bloomberg TV in New York. A shutdown there would cause a temporary price spike until U.S. refiners make up for the lost output, he said. Most regions of Venezuela are facing blackouts for two to four hours a day to save power as the worst drought in 50 years reduces water levels in hydroelectric dams that provide 73 percent of the country's energy. Most units of state oil producer Petroleos de Venezuela SA generate their own power, the company president said on January 15. He said the units will not be halted because of the shortages. Source:  
<http://www.businessweek.com/news/2010-01-19/venezuela-power-shortage-may-push-oil-above-100-update1-.html>

**U.S. and Morocco cooperate on nuclear incident response.** The National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) has completed cooperative training exercises in Morocco at the National Center for Nuclear Energy, Science and Technologies (CNESTEN) in Rabat. The four day effort included training in plume modeling, emergency operations center development and infrastructure, training and demonstration on specific radiation detection equipment, and exercise development. This training is part of the preparation for an exercise to be conducted under the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism. More than 80 representatives from Moroccan agencies participated. "NNSA's work with Morocco as part of our broader effort under the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism to build and enhance the global capacity to prevent and respond to nuclear and radiological emergencies," said the NNSA associate administrator for emergency operations. Source: [http://nuclearstreet.com/blogs/nuclear\\_power\\_news/archive/2010/01.aspx](http://nuclearstreet.com/blogs/nuclear_power_news/archive/2010/01.aspx)

## **FOOD AND AGRICULTURE**

**Asian carp DNA found in Lake Michigan.** The DNA of Asian carp has been found in Lake Michigan for the first time, researchers said Tuesday, igniting a new round of calls for urgent action and renewed criticism of Illinois and the federal government for allowing the voracious carp to migrate up the state's waterways. The alarming find came just hours after the U.S. Supreme Court refused to address the carp issue, rejecting Michigan's request for an injunction to force Illinois to stop its waterways from flowing into Lake Michigan. That left the issue in the hands of federal and state officials in Illinois. Soon after the DNA announcement, officials from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other agencies attempted to downplay concerns, saying there is still no evidence that live carp have entered Lake Michigan or that the invasive species could flourish if they do. But the discovery may bring the region a step closer to a scenario in which the carp devastate the Great Lakes' fragile ecology and commercial fishing interests. While researchers now plan more tests to verify the DNA findings, some officials are calling for a White House summit to draft a joint plan of action, while others are demanding a massive carp kill or more barriers leading to the lake. Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/chicago/ct-met-0120-asian-carp-ruling-20100119,0,4725350.story>

**Military software to help food producers guard against attacks.** Food producers can use software developed for the U.S. military to assess their vulnerability to tampering, terrorism, or other criminal attacks. The risk assessment tool was adapted by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Agriculture to help farmers and other producers evaluate their supply chains and processes for weaknesses that someone could exploit. The Director of the FDA Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition said in a press release that the tool can help producers understand how an attacker may think as well as how to implement countermeasures for weak points. The tool evaluates the health and economic impact of attacks, ease of reaching potential targets, ease of recovery following an attack, vulnerability to attack, potential production loss following an attack, visibility as a potential target, and psychological impact of an attack. It can be downloaded at [www.fda.gov/food/fooddefense/carver](http://www.fda.gov/food/fooddefense/carver). Source: <http://www.avma.org/onlnews/javma/feb10/100201r.asp>

**Indiana firm recalls frozen chicken pot pie products.** Park 100 Foods, Inc., a Kokomo, Indiana, establishment, is recalling approximately 19,200 pounds of frozen chicken pot pie products that may contain foreign materials, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service

(FSIS) announced Wednesday. The product subject to recall includes 2.5-pound cartons of “Market Day®, CHICKEN POT PIE, Made With All White Chicken Meat.” Each carton bears a Julian date “28209” which is located on the right side panel, an order number “7138” and the establishment number “P-6882” inside the USDA mark of inspection. The products were produced by Park 100 Foods on October 9, 2009, and were distributed by Market Day through Internet or catalog sales in Delaware, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Missouri, New Jersey, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia and Wisconsin. The problem was discovered after Market Day received a customer complaint about finding metal straight pins in the product. Source: [http://www2.nbc4i.com/cmh/news/local/article/indiana\\_firm\\_recalls\\_frozen\\_chicken\\_pot\\_pie\\_products/30328/](http://www2.nbc4i.com/cmh/news/local/article/indiana_firm_recalls_frozen_chicken_pot_pie_products/30328/)

**Fertilizer industry sees impacts from chemical security bill.** Fertilizer costs and supply could suffer under legislation moving through congress, unless changes are made, according to those inside the fertilizer industry. A Fertilizer Institute spokeswoman says her industry does not oppose continued requirements to do plant terrorism security planning. But requirements in a house-passed bill that the senate has yet to consider that would force product substitution is a different story. “It has been our opinion that inherently safer technologies or product substitution, whatever you want to call it, is not a security issue. It is a safety issue,” the spokeswoman said. She added that forcing makers of anhydrous ammonia for fertilizer to switch products would drive up costs and hurt quality. “Our ability to produce a very valuable nitrogen fertilizer, in our opinion, would have a very negative impact on farmer’s ability to grow crops.” Source: [http://www.hoosieragtoday.com/wire/news/00148\\_fertilizerlegislation\\_223537.php](http://www.hoosieragtoday.com/wire/news/00148_fertilizerlegislation_223537.php)

**Study says food facilities failing to comply with Bioterrorism Act of 2002.** The Bioterrorism Act of 2002 requires food facilities to register with the Food and Drug Administration yet a recent government review revealed that nearly half of food facilities have failed to give correct information. Farms, retail facilities and restaurants are exempt from registering under the Bioterrorism Act of 2002. All told, the FDA expected approximately 420,000 domestic and foreign food facilities to register. In total, 157,395 United States facilities and 234, 822 foreign facilities exporting to the United States, for a total of 392,217, registered. The goal of the registration is to provide a valid emergency contact name or a physical address to contact the parent company or owner or operator in times of bioemergency. Twenty-three of the 130 facilities surveyed failed to provide this information. Of those surveyed by the government review, nearly half were found to have failed to give correct information. Forty-eight percent of those surveyed failed to either provide accurate information upon first registering or failed to provide updated information after making changes at their facilities as required. The report noted that, of the 130 facilities surveyed, 30 failed to provide correct information. Source: <http://www.bioprepwatch.com/news/211659-study-says-food-facilities-failing-to-comply-with-bioterrorism-act-of-2002>

**U.S. Supreme Court will hear Monsanto appeal.** The U.S. Supreme Court will consider overturning a federal court order that has stopped Monsanto Co. from selling genetically-modified alfalfa seeds, but the decision will hardly be limited to one specific crop. The alfalfa seeds in question, like most of Monsanto’s products, are resistant to the active ingredient glyphosate used in the company’s trademark Roundup herbicide. Although the seeds were initially approved for use in 2005 by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the approval was done after the department determined it did not need to conduct a formal environmental review. Environmental groups and a conventional seed company,



Geertson Seed Farms, began their lawsuit in 2006 to force federal officials to fully explore the environmental impacts of the seed. A federal judge agreed that a full review should have been completed by the USDA prior to approval of the seed, and the U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the lower court ruling. Although farmers who had already planted the crop were allowed to continue, Monsanto was barred from further distribution of the product. In October 2009, Monsanto filed with the U.S. Supreme Court for a review of the case. As the case has made its way through the courts, the USDA has continued processing an environmental review of the seed, and began a 60-day comment period on its draft impact statement in mid-December. Source:

<http://iowaindependent.com/25911/u-s-supreme-court-will-hear-monsanto-appeal>

**New York firm recalls beef carcass that contains prohibited materials.** Jerry Hayes Meats Inc. is recalling approximately 490 pounds of a beef carcass that may not have had the spinal column removed, which is not compliant with regulations that require the removal of spinal cord and vertebral column from cattle over 30 months of age, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) announced today. Spinal cord and vertebral column are considered a specified risk material (SRM) and must be removed from cattle over 30 months of age in accordance with FSIS regulations. SRMs are tissues that are known to contain the infective agent in cattle infected with Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE), as well as materials that are closely associated with these potentially infective tissues. The products subject to recall include one beef carcass which bears the establishment number "EST. 04488 M" inside the USDA mark of inspection. The product was packed on January 7, 2010, and sold to a single customer in New York. The problem was discovered through routine FSIS inspection activities. FSIS has received no reports of illnesses associated with consumption of this product. Source: [http://www.cattlenetwork.com/New-York-Firm-Recalls-Beef-Carcass-That-Contains-Prohibited-Materials/2010-01-16/Article\\_Latest\\_News.aspx?oid=976200&fid=CN-LATEST\\_NEWS](http://www.cattlenetwork.com/New-York-Firm-Recalls-Beef-Carcass-That-Contains-Prohibited-Materials/2010-01-16/Article_Latest_News.aspx?oid=976200&fid=CN-LATEST_NEWS)

**Meat packer recalls ground beef.** Some 390 tons of ground beef produced by a California meat packer, some of it nearly two years ago, is being recalled for fear of potentially deadly E. coli bacterium tainting, the Department of Agriculture said. The beef was produced by Huntington Meat Packing Inc. of Montebello, California, and shipped mainly to California outlets. An initial problem, in ground beef shipped by the plant from January 5 to January 15, was discovered during a regular safety check. During a follow-up, government inspectors determined additional products produced and shipped in 2008 to be of concern. There were no reports of illness. Source: [http://www.nytimes.com/2010/01/19/us/19brfs-MEATPACKERRE\\_BRF.html](http://www.nytimes.com/2010/01/19/us/19brfs-MEATPACKERRE_BRF.html)

## **GOVERNMENT SECTOR (INCLUDING SCHOOLS & UNIVERSITIES)**

**U.S. Government Accountability Office – (GAO-10-41, Information Sharing: Federal agencies are sharing border and terrorism information with local and tribal law enforcement agencies, but additional efforts are needed.** GAO has recommended that DHS and the FBI more fully identify the information needs of and establish partnerships with local and tribal officials along the borders; identify promising practices in developing border intelligence products within fusion centers and obtain feedback on the products; and define the suspicious activities that local and tribal officials in border communities are to report and how to report them. DHS agreed and the FBI did not comment. Source: <http://www.gao.gov/htext/d1041.html>

**Duke University to develop dirty bomb radiation test.** Duke University has received a \$3.7 million contract to develop a test for radiation exposure from a dirty bomb or nuclear attack. The contract comes from the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority, and could be worth up to \$43.6 million to Duke if the government renews it in the future. "Since 9/11, there has been national concern about the possibility of a terrorist attack in the U.S. involving radiological or nuclear materials. Such an attack could kill or injure hundreds of thousands of people," says an associate professor of medicine at Duke and principal investigator of the project, in a Duke press release. "The problem is that right now, we don't have any way to rapidly screen thousands of people to determine their level of radiation exposure. Many people who suffer radiation injury can recover and survive if they are promptly and properly treated." The end product will be a portable, 30-minute test for radiation injury that can be used to triage thousands of individuals in a short time following a radiological or nuclear attack. Source: <http://www.hanfordnews.com/news/2010/story/14609.html>

**Reno court evacuated due to suspicious packages.** A courthouse building in downtown Reno has been evacuated while sheriff's deputies investigate two suspicious packages left outside Reno Justice Court. Washoe County deputies closed off the streets and Reno Justice Court canceled the rest of the day's calendar on Wednesday after a court security officer found the packages about 11:30 a.m. A police spokesman says there has been no direct threat made but that as precaution a regional bomb squad is investigating with a robot equipped with a camera. The evacuation affects both Reno Justice and Municipal Court on Sierra Street just south of the Truckee River but not Washoe County District Court a block to the east. Source: [http://www.marinij.com/tablehome/ci\\_14231747](http://www.marinij.com/tablehome/ci_14231747)

**Police: Man arrested after firing shots on Texas capitol's steps.** A man with a handgun fired several shots Thursday on the Texas Capitol's south steps in Austin, but state troopers quickly tackled him and there were no reports of injuries, the Texas Department of Public Safety said. The Capitol was on lockdown as officials searched as a precaution. The south steps were secured by yellow police tape. The shots rang out just after noon, and officers with rifles quickly swarmed the scene. More than a half dozen Department of Public Safety cars quickly appeared, and troopers quickly surrounded the building. "We're not aware of any injuries," a department spokesman said. An artist from New York City said she was just inside the front doors of the Capitol when the shots were fired. She ran out the doors in time to see troopers holding a man down on the ground. "They were all over him," the witness said. "I could hear him saying 'my hands are up.'" The Texas governor was not in the building at the time, his office said, and many lawmakers were away from Austin on Thursday because the legislature was not in session. Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,583564,00.html?test=latestnews>

**Page DES office gets two bomb threats.** The Page office for the State Department of Economic Security (DES) was searched earlier this week after two bomb threats were made. The Page police chief said an anonymous call was placed Monday to the Child Protective Services hotline in Phoenix. The caller disguised his or her voice and stated that they were going to "blow up" the Page or Flagstaff DES office Tuesday when staff members returned to work. A news release issued Thursday by the Page police chief said the police department received a call of the threat about 2:50 p.m. Monday. Once at the Page DES office, officers secured the area. They were met by the CPS supervisor, who told them of the threat. Officers and the Page Fire Marshal assisted in searching the interior and exterior of the building, the police chief said in his release. No sign of an explosive device was found. Officers returned to the scene about 8 a.m. Tuesday as employees arrived for work and

conducted another search. Again, no sign of an explosive device was found. The CPS supervisor informed officers on the scene that the hotline had received another call around midnight and that the caller sounded like the original caller. This time, a vague threat was made toward northern Arizona, the police chief said. Page Police has been in contact with Flagstaff Police, Phoenix Police and the FBI. The Phoenix Police Department will be conducting the investigation because the call was received in the city of Phoenix. Source: [http://www.azdailysun.com/news/local/article\\_6440ee23-48fd-5d4e-929b-8ea1c1f08060.html](http://www.azdailysun.com/news/local/article_6440ee23-48fd-5d4e-929b-8ea1c1f08060.html)

**Bellingham DSHS office evacuated after threat, but no bomb found.** The Washington State Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) office on Meridian Street was evacuated for a bomb threat Thursday morning, January 21, but a search found no explosives, police said. Employees were ushered out of the building around 10 a.m., according to witnesses. Police swept the building twice with the assistance of a bomb-sniffing dog, but did not find anything, said a Bellingham Police Department spokesman. The building was cleared at approximately 11:40 a.m., and employees were allowed back into the building shortly after the police spokesman said. Source: [http://www.bellinghamherald.com/590/story/1255252.html?storylink=omni\\_popular](http://www.bellinghamherald.com/590/story/1255252.html?storylink=omni_popular)

**Jacksonville City Hall evacuated due to bomb scare.** Jacksonville Police closed streets downtown after a bomb scare. Hours later, they were at the scene of a second suspicious object nearby. Jacksonville Sheriff's Officers said a black suitcase was found lying on the sidewalk near Church and Laura Streets just before 5 p.m. Police cleared the area. At one point, the sheriff's office was so concerned they pushed the media about a block away from Hemming Plaza, which is in front of City Hall. Officers said the plaza was considered a "blast area," in case the suspicious object detonated. As darkness set in and the investigation continued, several downtown employees told First Coast News they were stranded. The bomb squad had restricted access to area parking garages. Source: <http://www.firstcoastnews.com/news/local/news-article.aspx?storyid=151012&provider=rss>

**TPD probes bomb threat at Raa, Springwood schools.** No arrest has been made and Tallahassee police are continuing to investigate a bomb threat that occurred Wednesday morning at two Leon County schools. Principals at Raa Middle and Springwood Elementary schools were forced to evacuate staff and students between 8:45 a.m. and 9 a.m. Wednesday when they were informed by district administrators of a bomb threat. The threat came in the form of a 911 call to TPD dispatchers. Police were able to trace the call to the Express Lane convenience store at 2784 West Tharpe St., which is at the intersection of Mission Road. Crime scene investigators pulled finger prints from the phone, and investigators ruled out one person who had used the phone prior to the call, a TPD police spokesman. The spokesman said investigators reviewed store surveillance videotape but were unable to find anything. Located just a block from North Monroe Street at Tharpe Street and North Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, Raa Middle School had not yet begun its day when the principal was notified at about 8:45 a.m. Because the 880 enrolled students were not yet in the building, the principal had to evacuate a staff of about 70. Students who were being dropped off by parents and school buses were directed to the bus drop-off while the sweep was being conducted. Source: <http://www.tallahassee.com/article/20100121/NEWS0102/1210321/1001/RSS>

**Student makes bomb threat.** A Horace Mann Middle School student is accused of writing a bomb threat on a bathroom wall Wednesday, but school officials say the student had no intention of acting on the threat. The Horace Mann principal said students alerted staff members Wednesday morning

that a bomb threat was written on an eighth-grade boys' bathroom wall. The writing made reference to a bomb and an incident that would take place at the school Wednesday, he said. The student who made the threat was identified based on information provided by students and video from security cameras, the principal said. No evacuations took place and students and staff members never were in danger, he said. The principal credited students for quickly alerting staff members of the threat. A letter was sent home with Horace Mann students to inform parents about the incident. The Wausau police chief said the student was released to the student's father and was referred to juvenile services on a charge of making a bomb threat. Source:

<http://www.wausaudailyherald.com/article/20100121/WDH0101/1210657/1581&located=rss>

**Queens man plotted against U.S. troops in Afghanistan: Prosecutors.** Federal prosecutors Tuesday said the Queens man accused of training in an al Qaeda camp had planned to kill American servicemen in Afghanistan. The suspect went to a terrorist training camp in Pakistan in August 2008 "with the intent to kill U.S. service members in Afghanistan," said an assistant United States Attorney. He added that prosecutors "anticipate additional charges" against the suspect. The 25 year-old suspect, a Bosnian born U.S. citizen, has pleaded not guilty and his defense attorney Tuesday again claimed after the brief hearing that authorities had improperly questioned his client after he had crashed his car on the Whitestone Expressway January 7th. The suspect had apparently been trying to shake an FBI surveillance, sources have said. His associate, a cab driver, may face additional charges, a federal prosecutor said Tuesday in another proceeding at Brooklyn Federal Court. For now the 24-year old Afghani immigrant is accused of lying to FBI agents investigating a terrorism case. His defense attorney did not make a bail application Tuesday and both suspects remain behind bars. Authorities say both men are linked to a former 24 year-old Queens resident who worked as a Colorado airport driver and who originally hails from Afghanistan. That suspect has pleaded not guilty to undergoing terror training and plotting to blow up New York targets with homemade bombs. Prosecutors also said that the cases might be combined. All three men had attended Flushing High School. Source: <http://www.nbcnewyork.com/news/local-beat/Queens-Man-Plotted-Against-Servicemen-in-Afghanistan-Prosecutors-82089722.html>

**2 men accused of plotting to kill federal prosecutor.** The FBI has arrested two Illinois men charged with plotting to have an Assistant U.S. Attorney and a Drug Enforcement Administration agent, killed CBS2 reports. A 39 year-old suspect, from Downers Grove and a 41 year-old suspect, from Naperville, have been charged with solicitation to commit violence against another person. The 41-year old suspect appeared before a U.S. Magistrate Judge in Chicago Tuesday afternoon and was ordered held without bond. The 39 year-old suspect was scheduled to appear in court Thursday. The assistant U.S. attorney targeted in the plot was not named in court papers, but was prosecuting a drug case pending against the 39 year-old suspect in federal court. A criminal complaint says that the 41 year-old suspect approached a defendant in a separate case to have the prosecutor in the 39 year-old's case killed. An FBI spokesman said, "Here we have two people that are alleged to have conspired to have the prosecutor and the investigator in an unrelated criminal case killed. Very similar to what we've been seeing in Mexico and in other countries for a number of years and it's hopefully not a foreshadowing of things to come in this country." Source:

<http://cbs2chicago.com/local/prosecutor.murder.conspiracy.2.1435579.html>

**State police probe package to Sweeney.** State Police are investigating an incident Friday in which a suspicious package was left at the local office of the acting governor. The package, which was

determined not to be dangerous, was left by a man who visited the acting governor's legislative office on Kings Highway at Forest Parkway, authorities said. The area around the office was closed off as a bomb squad investigated the package. No arrests had been made as of Friday evening, said a State Police spokesman. The acting governor is serving as governor until Sunday, January 17, when the governor is expected to return from a Swiss vacation. Source:

<http://www.courierpostonline.com/article/20100116/NEWS01/1160343/1006/news01/State-police-probe-package-to-Sweeney>

## **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**Apple's iPhone touchscreen supplier faces violent employee strike.** More than 2,000 workers at a Wintek Corp. factory in Suzhou, China have gone on strike and destroyed equipment at their factory, potentially straining the supply of parts for Apple's iPhone. According to China Daily, factory workers the week of January 11 damaged equipment and vehicles in response to a number of alleged deaths from overexposure to toxic chemicals. Employees said they did not accept the local government's investigation into the matter. Bloomberg reported that the factory is a component supplier for the iPhone. On January 15, workers gathered in the morning and caused damage at the Suzhou Industrial Park. They also blocked off a road and threw rocks at police, though no casualties were reported. Various reports said that the workers were reacting to rumors of a canceled 2009 bonus, but one worker told China Daily the matter was not solely about money. Employees said there was a strong smell at the factory that they believe caused the deaths of four workers. The employees believe the deaths are attributed to an overexposure to hexane, a toxic chemical used to clean touchscreen panels at the factory. Source:

[http://www.appleinsider.com/articles/10/01/18/apples\\_iphone\\_touchscreen\\_supplier\\_faces\\_violent\\_employee\\_strike.html](http://www.appleinsider.com/articles/10/01/18/apples_iphone_touchscreen_supplier_faces_violent_employee_strike.html)

**RockYou hack reveals easy-to-crack passwords.** Analysis of the 32 million passwords recently exposed in the breach of social media application developer RockYou last month provides further proof that consumers routinely use easy to guess login credentials. Sensitive login credentials - stored in plain text - were left exposed because of a SQL injection bug in RockYou's website. RockYou admitted the breach, which applied to user password and email addresses for widgets it developed, and pledged to improve security in order to safeguard against future problems. Database security firm Imperva analyzed the frequency of password disclosed by the breach, prior to publishing a report on Thursday on Consumer Password Worst Practices, a problem illustrated by the top ten passwords thrown up by the RockYou security snafu. The five most common passwords used were 123456, 12345, 123456789, Password, and iloveyou. The trivial nature of the top ten RockYou passwords is bad enough, but worse is that nearly 50 per cent of passwords records exposed by the RockYou breach used names, slang words, dictionary words or trivial passwords (consecutive digits, adjacent keyboard keys), Imperva discovered. Password database breaches have happened before, of course, but the size of the RockYou breach allowed for the most in-depth analysis of real-world passwords to date. These days the average surfer maintains scores of login credentials for social networking and e-commerce sites. Source:

[http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/01/21/lame\\_passwords\\_exposed\\_by\\_rockyou\\_hack/](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/01/21/lame_passwords_exposed_by_rockyou_hack/)

**Clinton calls for Internet freedoms, inquiry into cyber attack at Google:** Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton called Thursday for unfettered access to the Internet around the globe after several



incidents of online censorship and cyber attacks have presented new questions for the role of technology in diplomacy. And in recognizing the increasing threat of cyber attacks to censor citizens and disrupt U.S. business overseas, she called for a global response to such actions. "Countries or individuals that engage in cyber attacks should face consequences and international condemnation," she said. ... She reiterated a call to the Chinese government to review the allegations made by Google. "We look to Chinese authorities to conduct a thorough investigation of the cyber intrusions that led Google to make this announcement," she said. ... Analysts and academics said Clinton's speech sends the sign that the United States is taking the lead on issues of censorship and cyber security as countries such as Uzbekistan, Tunisia, Iran and China have worked to control their citizens' access to the Web. [Date: 21 January 2010; Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/01/21/AR2010012101699.html>]

**Fearing hackers who leave no trace.** The crown jewels of Google, Cisco Systems or any other technology company are the millions of lines of programming instructions, known as source code, that make its products run. If hackers could steal those key instructions and copy them, they could easily dull the company's competitive edge in the marketplace. More insidiously, if attackers were able to make subtle, undetected changes to that code, they could essentially give themselves secret access to everything the company and its customers did with the software. The fear of someone building such a back door, known as a Trojan horse, and using it to conduct continual spying is why companies and security experts were so alarmed by Google's disclosure recently that hackers based in China had stolen some of its intellectual property and had conducted similar assaults on more than two dozen other companies. "Originally we were saying, 'Well, whoever got it has the secret sauce to Google and some 30 other California companies, and they can replicate it,' " said a director of security intelligence at VeriSign iDefense, which helped Google investigate the Chinese attacks. "But some of the more devious folks in our outfit were saying, 'Well, they could also insert their own code — and they probably have.' " Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/01/20/technology/20code.html>

**Microsoft confirms 17-year-old Windows bug.** Microsoft late on January 17 issued its second advisory of the last week, warning users that a 17-year-old bug in the kernel of all 32-bit versions of Windows could be used by hackers to hijack PCs. The vulnerability in the Windows Virtual DOS Machine (VDM) subsystem was disclosed on January 19 by a Google engineer on the Full Disclosure security mailing list. Coincidentally, the engineer received credit for reporting the single vulnerability that Microsoft fixed last week on its regular Patch Tuesday. The VDM subsystem was added to Windows with the July 1993 release of Windows NT, Microsoft's first fully 32-bit operating system. VDM allows Windows NT and later to run DOS and 16-bit Windows software. The January 20 advisory spelled out the affected software — all 32-bit editions of Windows, including Windows 7 — and told users how to disable VDM as a workaround. Windows' 64-bit versions are not vulnerable to attack. Source:

[http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9146820/Microsoft\\_confirms\\_17\\_year\\_old\\_Windows\\_bug](http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9146820/Microsoft_confirms_17_year_old_Windows_bug)

#### **Researchers: Facebook Vulnerable to Clickjacking**

Facebook contains vulnerabilities that would permit an attacker to hijack an account while a user is browsing another Web site, says a security researcher. Researcher Nitesh Dhanjani also says a flaw in Facebook's template is giving third-party apps permission to view user profile information without users' express consent. The company has changed its warning policy so that some new apps include an implicit authorization feature that does not caution Facebook users that a third-party app is



attempting to access their information, Dhanjani says. "This allows Facebook to gain increased adoption of third-party apps, which can translate to revenue," he says, noting that a warning would scare some users away from new apps. In a separate study that closely correlates with the new findings, Dhanjani and Israeli security analyst Shlomi Narkolayev say hackers could wield "clickjacking" attacks to penetrate Facebook accounts by duping users into visiting sites embedded with malware code. A Web site that appears to be an e-commerce page showing videos could obscure a Facebook log-in page behind it so that when a user accesses the site to see a video, for example, his or her account is opened instead in the background, without the user's knowledge. "Using ClickJacking I also could fool users to click whatever I want: Adding me as their friend, delete their account, and even open their camera and microphone using flash (Older versions than 10.x), or install Facebook applications that post their Web camera and microphone every time they connected to Facebook," Narkolayev writes on his blog. [http://news.cnet.com/8301-27080\\_3-10436698-245.html](http://news.cnet.com/8301-27080_3-10436698-245.html)

**Internet heading for 'perfect storm'.** Attacks on the cloud could cause major global outages and the service providers are now quietly worried at the potential for chaos, a survey of the sector has found. According to Arbor Networks' latest annual Infrastructure Security Report (Volume 5) survey of 132 large IP operators from across the world, 35 percent of respondents put this at the top of their worry list for the next year, ahead even of the traditional anxiety over botnets and DDoS. Evidence for attacks on the nascent cloud industry are thin on the ground compared to other sectors, but it is easy to see where the anxiety comes from. In principle, a single vulnerability in any part of the various software elements on which a cloud provider bases its services could compromise not just a single application but the whole virtualized cloud service and all its customers. Botnets came second on 21 percent, marginally ahead of ID and credential theft on 20 percent, with DNS cache poisoning, BGP route hijacking, system compromise and Internet worms all under the 10 percent worry mark. Perhaps the biggest challenge revealed by the survey is simply the sheer number of challenges that have come along at once, what Arbor describes as a 'perfect storm' of problems. Source: <http://news.techworld.com/security/3210547/internet-heading-for-perfect-storm/?intcmp=nws-hm-1>

## **NATIONAL MONUMENTS AND ICONS**

**Feds report latest effects of pine beetle outbreak.** The U.S. Forest Service is releasing a new report on the areas affected by the beetle infestation that has killed more than 2.5 million acres of pine trees in Colorado and southeastern Wyoming. Regional forest officials in Denver will release an aerial survey Friday showing the latest number of affected acres. The Forest Service announced last month that it is pumping \$40 million more into battling the tiny bugs that burrow under the bark of pine trees and lay their eggs. The needles on infected trees turn from green to rust before eventually falling off. Forest officials say threats from the strands of dead trees include the risk of catastrophic wildfires, injury and property damage from falling trees and damage to waterways from erosion. Source: <http://www.krdo.com/Global/story.asp?S=11863470>

**Mt. Rainier's retreating glaciers are making a mess.** The fallout from Mt. Rainier's shrinking glaciers is beginning to roll downhill, and nowhere is the impact more striking than on the volcano's west side. As receding glaciers expose crumbly slopes, vast amounts of gravel and sediment are being sluiced into the rivers that flow from the Northwest's tallest peak. Much of the material sweeps down

in rain-driven slurries called debris flows, like those that repeatedly have slammed Mt. Rainier National Park's Westside Road. "The rivers are filling up with stuff," a park service geologist says. Inside park boundaries, rivers choked with gravel are threatening to spill across roads, bump up against the bottom of bridges and flood the historic complex at Longmire. Source:

<http://www.csmonitor.com/Environment/2010/0120/Mt.-Rainier-s-retreating-glaciers-are-making-a-mess>

**Yellowstone earthquake swarm continues into third day, intensifies.** The swarm of earthquakes that started on January 17 at Yellowstone National Park continued the morning of January 19 and had significantly intensified in magnitude on January 18. At 8:39 p.m. on January 18, a magnitude 3.3 earthquake was recorded followed by a 3.0 at 9:42 p.m. So far today, quakes of 2.5, 2.6 and 2.7 have been recorded in the park. As of 9:20 a.m. January 19, 424 earthquakes had been recorded in the swarm that started early Sunday, according to a doctoral student in geophysics at the University of Utah, which operates more than two dozen earthquake recording stations in the park. He said that seven people have told investigators they felt the 3.3 earthquake and another six the 3.0 quake. The doctoral student said the quakes are occurring in an area about 5 miles from where the largest swarm of quakes was ever recorded in October 1985. A geophysicist at the University of Utah and one of the leading experts on earthquake and volcanic activity at Yellowstone said that the activity is a "notable swarm." "The swarm is located about 10 miles northwest of Old Faithful, Wyo., and nine miles southeast of West Yellowstone, Montana," he said. Source:

[http://www.denverpost.com/breakingnews/ci\\_14221601](http://www.denverpost.com/breakingnews/ci_14221601)

## **POSTAL AND SHIPPING**

**Bomb squad detonates suspicious device.** Police in Huber Heights were called to Pitcairn Road on the report of a suspicious device that was found. According to police, a mailman found the suspicious device inside a mailbox. The Dayton Bomb Squad was called to the scene to investigate. A few homes in the area were evacuated as a precaution. A News Center 7 reporter was at the scene and said that the bomb squad has detonated the device and an all-clear has been given. Officers said a very real-looking pipe bomb was found inside a mailbox. However it turned out to be fake. An officer with the Huber Heights Police told Dayton Daily News that crews responded to the scene around 12:30 p.m. Medics were also called to the scene as a precaution. Source:

<http://www.whiotv.com/news/22303872/detail.html>

**Bomb scare leads to evacuation.** Dozens of homes and businesses were evacuated Wednesday afternoon when a suspicious package surfaced at the downtown Arcata FedEx Office store and set authorities on an hours-long, meticulous process of moving the possibly explosive device to a safe location for destruction. The Humboldt County Explosive Ordinance Disposal Team, equipped with a robotic bomb handler, was called to G and 16th streets after the suspicious package was dropped off prepaid with a fake return address. At around 5:30 p.m., the package was put into a huge metal box — meant to withstand explosions — mounted on the back of a trailer, then taken to a safe zone where it could be destroyed. A Humboldt County sheriff's office lieutenant said the package was taken to a piece of private property in the east area of the county. He said the team would use one of several detonation options to "render it safe," then examine the remnants to see if it was an explosive device. That information was not available at deadline. Source:

[http://www.contracostatimes.com/california/ci\\_14236989](http://www.contracostatimes.com/california/ci_14236989)

## **PUBLIC HEALTH/SAFETY/INFORMATION**

**Rules for patient data security remain widely unenforced.** As the federal government prepares to spend up to \$27 billion in stimulus funds to promote electronic medical records, a health technology industry survey suggests that a number of hospitals, health clinics, and insurance firms are violating federal security rules on patient data and putting sensitive health information at risk,” The Center for Public Integrity reports. “The November survey by the health technology trade association Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS) found that one in four of the 196 health organizations that responded do not conduct a formal risk analysis to identify security gaps in electronic patient data. ... failure to conduct a formal risk analysis is a violation of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), which became law in 1996.” The deputy director for health information privacy at HHS’s Office for Civil Rights, “said the agency hasn’t issued any fines because the goal of enforcement is to nudge doctors, hospitals, and insurers into compliance, not to punish them.” Industry insiders “say there have been few patient data security cases at HHS because the agency relies on media reports, complaints, and referrals from other agencies to learn of potential HIPAA rules violations, which has not generated a wide number of leads or investigations.”

Source: <http://www.kaiserhealthnews.org/Daily-Reports/2010/January/21/Enforcement-of-Patient-Data-Rules.aspx>

**Kansas pharmacy evacuated after bomb threat.** A Kansas City, Kansas, pharmacy had to be evacuated after a man demanded drugs and left behind what he claimed was a bomb. Police say a man in his 50s walked into Mark’s Pharmacy around 11 a.m. Wednesday and ordered the pharmacist to give him drugs. When the pharmacist refused, the man placed a device on the counter and said it was a bomb. Police say the pharmacist fired a shotgun several times as the man fled, but they do not think he was hit. A bomb squad determined the device did not pose a threat. Source:

<http://www.nebraska.tv/Global/story.asp?S=11856581>

**Lincoln City hospital reopens after bomb threat.** The Samaritan North Hospital in Lincoln City has resumed normal operations following a bomb threat Monday morning, according to a lieutenant of the Lincoln City police. Emergency dispatch received the threat about 10:35 Monday morning. The caller said the hospital had two hours to evacuate the building before the bomb was due to go off. Nine patients were transferred to other facilities in the area while Lincoln City police, Oregon State Police, and Lincoln County sheriff’s deputies searched the grounds. A second search was conducted in the early afternoon and the hospital cleared for use at about 2:15 p.m. Source:

[http://www.oregonlive.com/news/index.ssf/2010/01/lincoln\\_city\\_hospital\\_cleared.html](http://www.oregonlive.com/news/index.ssf/2010/01/lincoln_city_hospital_cleared.html)

**Two boys arrested in bomb threats to hospital.** Stoughton police have taken two boys into custody on suspicion of making bomb threats that prompted the temporary evacuation of 18 hospital patients. A police sergeant said Sunday the boys face tentative felony charges of causing a bomb scare. Stoughton Hospital received the first threat Saturday evening. Authorities found nothing. Hospital officials received more threats Sunday morning by phone so they decided to evacuate 18 patients to other facilities. Once authorities deemed the building was secure, patients began returning to the hospital some three hours later. The police sergeant said police had to take the threats seriously because they gave specific information. Source:

[http://www.winonadailynews.com/news/state-and-regional/wi/article\\_462a0c7e-04ac-11df-affd-001cc4c002e0.html](http://www.winonadailynews.com/news/state-and-regional/wi/article_462a0c7e-04ac-11df-affd-001cc4c002e0.html)

## **TRANSPORTATION**

**Lawyer: JFK Airport breach was accident.** A New York man's breach of security at John F. Kennedy International Airport was the result of an accident, his attorney says. The attorney said his 57-year-old client accidentally caused the airport's Terminal 8 to go into lock-down when he attempted to exit the airport, the New York Post reported Monday. "I was looking for the exit to find a taxi," the lawyer quoted his client's comments to authorities. "I went through the door, and the alarm went off. I kept going because I was lost." Authorities said the man was charged with criminal trespass and criminal tampering after his impromptu exit via a restricted area promoted Saturday's 2.5 -hour lock-down. Prosecutors maintain the two doors used in the incident were both clearly marked as restricted. The lawyer denied the possibility that his client, who had arrived at JFK Airport from Haiti, is a terrorist.

Source: [http://www.upi.com/Top\\_News/US/2010/01/18/Lawyer-JFK-Airport-breach-was-accident/UPI-88331263833400/](http://www.upi.com/Top_News/US/2010/01/18/Lawyer-JFK-Airport-breach-was-accident/UPI-88331263833400/)

## **WATER AND DAMS**

**Portland parks group opposes idea to give guns to Water Bureau security.** The Portland Parks Board voted today to oppose the city commissioner's proposal to give guns and arresting powers to the people who protect Portland's drinking water. The 11-member board, which provides a forum for discussion about park issues, voted unanimously after hearing from the Water Bureau's administrator and the police chief. Currently, 19 security officers and two administrators in the Water Bureau are authorized to patrol the city's open reservoirs and call police for help. The commissioner's proposal would create a law enforcement unit within the bureau whose members would undergo basic training through the Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training. He has argued that police response times vary and his people need backup to protect a valuable public resource. The Water Bureau owns five open reservoirs located in city parks — Mt. Tabor and Washington Park. The Water Bureau's administrator has said the bureau needs a way to handle trespassers, fire-building campers, as well as terrorists capable of harming the city's water supply. Source:

[http://www.oregonlive.com/portland/index.ssf/2010/01/portland\\_parks\\_group\\_opposes\\_i.html](http://www.oregonlive.com/portland/index.ssf/2010/01/portland_parks_group_opposes_i.html)

## **NORTH DAKOTA HOMELAND SECURITY CONTACTS**

To report a homeland security incident, please contact your local law enforcement agency or one of these agencies: **Fusion Center (24/7):** 866-885-8295; email: [ndfusion@nd.gov](mailto:ndfusion@nd.gov) ; FAX: 701-328-8175

**State Radio:** 800-472-2121 **Bureau of Criminal Investigation:** 701-328-5500 **Highway Patrol:** 701-328-2455

**US Attorney's Office Intel Analyst:** 701-297-7400 **Bismarck FBI:** 701-223-4875 **Fargo FBI:** 701-232-7241

**ATF(Fargo):** 701-293-2860

To contribute to this summary or if you have questions or comments, please contact the Fusion Center:

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